

From: Curtis, Jennifer
Sent time: 11/07/2013 11:34:01 AM
To: Taylor, Sara M (DNR) <sara.taylor@alaska.gov>
Cc: Longan, Sara W (DNR) <sara.longan@alaska.gov>
Subject: EPA revisions to Alaska High Priority Projects list
Attachments: High Priority Energy Projects November 2013 EPA.docx High Priority Federal Projects November 2013 EPA.docx High Priority Mining Projects November 2013 EPA.docx High Priority Transp Projects November 2013 EPA.docx

Hi Sara,

Attached is our updated lists. I apologize that our timeline has been off. Our edits are all identified in red. If you have any questions, please let me know. My understanding is that the meeting is next Thursday. I will probably need to distribute the final lists to our participants by COB on Wednesday. Hopefully the next round of updates will go a little more smoothly.

Thanks,

Jennifer Curtis, NEPA Reviewer
US EPA-Alaska Operations Office
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Anchorage, Alaska 99513
Phone: 907-271-6324

OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Point Thomson

Lead Federal Agency: COE

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (3) Lori Aldridge, (4) EPA Lead: Gayle Martin (404)

ExxonMobil proposal to produce oil, gas and hydrocarbon condensate from the Point Thomson Sand Reservoir and delineate other hydrocarbon resources in the Point Thomson area.	The FEIS was issued August 2012. The Corps issued the Record of Decision (ROD) and 404 permit on October 26, 2012. Project construction is ongoing. The fuel storage tanks are in transit and will be installed later this summer. The airstrip is anticipated to be operational by the Fall of 2013.	EPA has not had any involvement with this project in several months.	State p compli held w EOM e and rec 182 pe project the cor Issued constru 12, 201 Permit tundra De-mo constru OPMP agency site vis
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska (NPR-A) IAP/EIS

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (3) Lori Aldridge (SW), (4)

EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), (5) Corps Lead: Mike Holly

<p>The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has finished the NEPA process for an Integrated Activity Plan (IAP). State scoping comments submitted on 8/3/11, for DEIS on 2/24/12 (internal) and 6/13/12 (public), and for FEIS on 1/29/13, with cover letter from the Governor's office.</p> <p>Salazar memo to BLM issued 12/19/12, noted ROD would specify that pipelines from offshore leases would not be prohibited by IAP, prompted outreach with NS communities prior to ROD issuance.</p> <p>H.R. 1964 "National Petroleum Reserve Alaska Access Act": Federal legislation proposed by Rep. Young to nullify the IAP/EIS and issue a new IAP/EIS; all other provisions almost identical to 2011's H.R. 2150 of the same name, which was not enacted; referred to Committee in May and reported by Committee to the House in June; next step is for the bill to pass the House, then on to the Senate.</p>	<p>Notice of scoping issued 7/28/10.</p> <p>DEIS issued 3/22/12.</p> <p>Preferred Alternative announced 8/9/12.</p> <p>FEIS issued 12/19/12.</p> <p>ROD issued 2/21/13.</p>	<p>ROD notes creation of NPR-A working group that includes NS communities but excludes other permitting agencies (state and federal) other than on an as needed basis.</p> <p>August 29, 2013: BLM held an all-day workshop in Barrow with local agencies, tribal governments, and native corporations.</p>	<p>DNR O cooper 9/12/1</p>
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Alaska Pipeline Project (Transcanada / Exxon)

Lead Federal Agency: FERC

Responsible Person: (1) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (2) Tim Spires (SW), (3) DNR Lead: Jodi Delgado-Plikat (SPCO), (4) EPA Lead: Mark Jen (PM/NEPA), (5) Gayle Martin (404), (6) Corps Lead: Mike Holly

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is drafting an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project proposed by TransCanada / ExxonMobil that would connect Alaska's vast natural gas resources with new markets. Deadline for FERC Certificate of Public Necessity and Convenience has been postponed for two years. The deadline for the EIS is 18 months later.	EIS scoping period lasts from August thru February. FERC public meetings and agency meetings now scheduled for mid-February (2012). Consolidated comments on the Alaska Pipeline Project draft Resource Reports from the State of Alaska were submitted March 16, 2012. Health Impact Assessment was made available for review in September 2012	EPA has not had any involvement with this project in several months.	The de report interes pipelin Decem project amend propos pipelin export The Sta filing d AGIA.
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline (ASAP) Project

Lead Federal Agency: COE

Responsible Person: (1) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (2) DNR Lead: Jodi Delgado-Plikat (SPCO), (3) EPA Lead: Mark Jen (PM/NEPA), (4) Gayle Martin (404), (5) Corps Lead: Mary Romero

<p>The proposed project would construct a 24-inch diameter, high pressure natural gas pipeline from the North Slope to Cook Inlet.</p> <p>The Alaska District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) has been designated the lead federal agency and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) are participating as Cooperating Agencies in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process.</p> <p>The Final EIS has been released but a Record of Decision was not released.</p>	<p>Present stage of EIS: Analysis of Alternatives prior to Draft EIS submission.</p> <p>Scoping closed December 2009. Scoping summary report has been finalized; second newsletter regarding scoping issues has been completed.</p> <p>Comments on Draft Chapter 1 P&N due to COE 9/10/13.</p> <p>Cooperating Agency MOU is being routed for signatures.</p>	<p>No formal application for this project has been submitted; Corps has closed the file.</p>	<p>This project is a substantial Alaska draftin field su of a 40 Supple Environ or Envi Statem</p>
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project

Lead Federal Agency: FERC

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Marie Steele, (2) DEC Lead: William Ashton, (3) ADFG Lead: Joe Klein (4) NMFS Lead: Susan Walker (Mandatory Conditioning Agency) (5) USFWS Lead: Catherine Berg (Mandatory Conditioning Agency) (6) EPA Lead: Matt LaCroix (404), (7) Jennifer Curtis (PM/NEPA) (8)

Corps Lead:

<p>The Susitna-Watana Hydro Dam installed capacity would be 600 MW with the average annual generation determined to be 2600 GWhrs (HDR 2009). The reservoir would be 42 miles long and a maximum of 2 miles wide. Current dam height anticipated to be 735-ft. The project proponent is Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) and OPMP is coordinating state agency involvement. Governor Sean Parnell has publicly endorsed the project. http://susitna-watanahydro.org/Description.html.</p>	<p>Project is currently in the 1st season of implementing study plans. Project is holding quarterly technical working group meetings (TWG) to update state and federal agencies on the progress of study implementation and the information and data being collected. The schedule for these meetings can be found on the project website (Updated 8/26/2013).</p> <p>Construction planned for 2017, with completion in 2024.</p>	<p>Recent federal budget actions have significantly impacted the US Fish and Wildlife Service's ability to adequately participate in this project and there is concern the Service, a mandatory conditioning agency, will not be able to fully participate in the licensing process.</p> <p>EPA, COE and USDA-RUS are Cooperating Agencies on the FERC EIS.</p> <p>Monthly Technical Working Group meetings continue. 2013 field work impacted by access issues. Initial Study Report is expected to be submitted to FERC February 3, 2014, and ISR meetings in mid-February.</p>	<p>Legisla Budget</p>
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Shell OCS Beaufort Sea

Lead Federal Agency: BOEM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (3) EPA Lead: Hanh Shaw (NPDES), (4) Natasha Greaves (Air)

<p>Drilled top hole for Sivulliq well during fall, 2012; first of its new wells in the Beaufort Sea OCS.</p> <p>Kulluk floating drilling vessel was originally scheduled to return to drill at Sivulliq and Torpedo prospects in 2013. Shell has suspended plans to drill in 2013.</p>	<p>Shell scaled back its drilling operations in the summer of 2012 due to a containment system failure. Shell drilled shallower, top-holes. Since both of Shell's drill rigs have been shipped to Singapore for repairs and upgrades, Shell has suspended plans to drill in 2013.</p>	<p>Environmental groups filed suit against BSEE's approval of Shell's OSR 7/9/12. A U.S District court judge upheld BSEE's OSR approval August 5, 2013.</p> <p>NPDES permits for Beaufort Sea oil and gas discharges issued in fall of 2012.</p> <p>EPA continues to work with Shell regarding possible voluntary withdrawal of air permit.</p>	
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Shell OCS Chukchi Sea

Lead Federal Agency: BOEM/BSEE

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (3) EPA Lead: Hanh Shaw (NPDES), (4) Natasha Greaves (Air)

<p>Shell's revised Exploration Plan for 2012 drilling in the Chukchi Sea was submitted to BOEM in October 2011. Released for 21-day public comment period on EA along with Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP) in November. BOEM Conditionally Approved Shell's 2012 Exploration Plan for the Chukchi Sea, but placed additional conditions that shorten the time period for exploration and place additional restrictions on Shell's Incidental Take Authorizations.</p> <p>Shell scaled back drilling operations during the summer of 2012 due to a containment system failure. Shell drilled shallower, top-holes.</p>	<p>Shell has suspended plans for drilling in the summer of 2013, as both drill rigs have been transported to Singapore for repairs and upgrades.</p>	<p>NPDES Permit for Chukchi Sea oil and gas discharges issued in fall of 2012. EPA has reviewed Shell's preliminary Environmental Monitoring Program plan and anticipates receiving Notices of Intent requesting permit coverage at the Burger lease blocks.</p> <p>EPA continues to work with Shell regarding possible voluntary withdrawal of air permit.</p>	
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Cook Inlet Waste Water GP

Lead Federal Agency: EPA (federal waters) and State of Alaska (state waters)

Responsible Person: (1) State Leads: Sara Longan, (2) Sara Taylor, (3) Patricia Bettis (Escopeta), (4) DEC

Lead: Gary Mendivil, (5) EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (Waste Water), (6) Corps Lead: TBD

<p>OCS Exploration General Permits for State and Federal Waters (Permit No. AKG-31-5000), issued in 2007, expired 7/12, extended administratively.</p> <p>Authority for oil and gas permitting in Cook Inlet state waters transferred to ADEC 11/1/12.</p> <p>Appeal of DEC's 401 Certification of EPA's NPDES Permit has been dismissed. A joint motion has also been filed in the 9th Circuit to dismiss the appeal of the EPA NPDES Permit. The case was dismissed 1/29/13.</p> <p>5-year general permits for discharge into Cook Inlet from exploration activities (ADEC for state waters, EPA for federal waters), currently planned for final issuance in 2014 will replace applicable components of the expired permit(s).</p>	<p>Draft ADEC and EPA general permits for O&G Exploration comment period closed May 2013, currently on 2014 final issuance schedule.</p>	<p>EPA process running concurrently with the ADEC process for issuance of the exploration general permits. EPA and ADEC currently working on responding to public comments and revising the documents. EPA and ADEC visited four native villages in August 2013 to discuss tribal concerns. EPA expects to issue the final permit in early 2014.</p>	
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Beaufort and Chukchi Sea Geotechnical GP

Lead Federal Agency: EPA

Lead State Agency: DEC

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan (2) DEC Leads: Wade Strickland, Chris Foley, Gary Mendivil, (5) EPA Lead: Erin Seyfried

<p>EPA NPDES General Permit for Geotechnical Surveying and Related Activities in Federal Waters of the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas.</p> <p>ADEC is developing a similar general permit for geotechnical facilities in state waters.</p>	<p>Joint EPA/ADEC 60-day public notice targeted for either November or December 2013; final issuance: April or May 2014</p>	<p>EPA and ADEC coordinating closely on the concurrent permitting and public/tribal outreach processes</p>	
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
<p>Project Title: Apache 3-D Seismic</p> <p>Lead Federal Agency: FWS</p> <p>Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Taylor, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (3) FWS Lead: Andy Loranger, (4) NMFS Lead: Brad Smith, (5) Corps Lead: TBD</p>			
<p>Advanced 3D seismic imaging of leaseholdings in the Cook Inlet area, including offshore state leases and CIRI subsurface inholdings in the KNWR.</p> <p>Special Use Permit issued for work in KNWR in mid-July 2013. Permit is good until 2016 with option to renew for two additional years.</p> <p>2nd IHA may be temporarily suspended at Apache's request, stopping the one-year clock while plans are finalized for offshore work during the 2013 season (August to October).</p> <p>Initial planned area for seismic survey has been scaled down to target areas with high potential.</p>	<p>Environmental Assessment regarding a proposed five-year special use permit to authorize seismic operations on certain Refuge lands; final EA issued and FONSI signed July 2013. Special Use Permit issued shortly after, following negotiations regarding the stipulations and conditions.</p> <p>Compatibility Determination for activities on Tyonek lands within the Refuge related to marine support issued April 11, 2013. Work to be governed by Special Use Permit.</p> <p>Section 106 consultation finalized. Letter from FWS received by SHPO 7/5/13; SHPO concurrence sent 7/10/13. 30 day comment period ended 8/2/13.</p>	<p>IHA for 3/1/13 to 3/1/14 issued February 2013. IHA issued 4/30/12 in litigation over BioOp; decision from Judge Gleason issued 5/28/13; case may be dismissed.</p> <p>Four NW6 permits issued (one each in Aug, Sept, Oct, 2012, and one for NW peninsula shoreline in May 2013). Work on KNWR is non-notifying; Apache applied for permit or "official OK" anyway, letter from FWS HistPres/Arch sent to ACOE early June.</p> <p>Two Section 10 permits issued (one each in May, Oct 2012); one outstanding application submitted 10/16/12 for waters north of the peninsula.</p> <p>EPA participated in a meet & greet with the company in September.</p>	<p>DOG geophysics issued 9/29/12.</p> <p>DPOR land use permit issued 9/1/12. CCSRA applications submitted. CCSRA permit issued. KRSMA permit issued. Apache's request for exception from permit requirements. Permits will be issued with option to renew for significant changes.</p> <p>No TWUPs needed for operation. ACOE working on other permits are needed.</p>

OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: AIDEA Alaska Interior Energy Plan – FBX LNG

Lead Federal Agency:

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil,

<p>Natural gas will be liquefied on the North Slope and trucked to Interior Alaska. Primary LNG demand anticipated to be FBX and North Pole. LNG will be temporarily stored and re-gasified in Interior Alaska. LNG will be delivered to market via trucking and distributed to consumers through an expanded pipe distribution system.</p> <p>http://www.aidea.org/</p>	<p>Target: first gas by 4Q 2015/1Q 2016</p>	<p>Pre-application meeting among local, state, and federal agencies held August 20, 2013</p>	<p>AIDEA feasibility evaluation of project</p> <p>AIDEA form final offering Feb – Jun 2013</p> <p>AIDEA participation in finance negotiations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -North Slope LNG -Trucking Contract -Gas Storage project -FBX Distribution <p>-Engineering Analysis review, underway</p>
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: NMFS/BOEM Effects of Oil and Gas Activities in the Arctic Ocean EIS

Lead Federal Agency:

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (3) EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA)

<p>On March 21, 2013, NOAA and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) announced the release of the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Effects of Oil and Gas Activities in the Arctic Ocean, which analyzes how a broad range of potential offshore oil and gas activities in the Arctic could affect marine mammals, other resources, and Alaska Native communities.</p> <p>NOAA and BOEM's new analysis follows comments received from stakeholders after release of the initial draft EIS issued in December 2011. The original draft analyzed up to two exploratory drilling programs per year in both the Chukchi and Beaufort seas. The supplemental draft EIS analyzes the effects of up to four drilling programs per year in each area--providing an opportunity to assess potential individual and cumulative impacts.</p> <p>http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/eis/arctic.htm</p>	<p>Supplemental DEIS public comment period closed June 27, 2013.</p> <p>NMFS plans to request assistance with some responses in late October/early November. Review of the preliminary FEIS expected mid-January 2014.</p>	<p>NMFS is currently drafting preliminary final EIS for agency review in February 2014.</p>	<p>State of Alaska is questioning the process, since they were not consulted during the review processes.</p>
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Project Title: Alpine Satellites Development Great Mooses Tooth -1 (GMT-1) Supplemental EIS

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Jeff Bruno, (2) EPA Leads: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), (3) Gayle Martin (404), (4) Corps Lead: Hank Bye

<p>In NPR-A: 33 wells, production and injection with 7.8 mile road to connect to CD-5, pipe to connect to CD-1. BLM preparing a supplemental EIS. The State will be a cooperating agency and ConocoPhillips will be signing into an MOU</p>	<p>DSEIS – Dec 2013 FSEIS – April 2014 ROD – May 2014</p>	<p>BLM has ROW authorizations.</p> <p>EPA, Corps, NSB, FWS and State of Alaska are</p>	<p>Permits needed for drilling waste stream amendment, proposed by State of Alaska 16</p>
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
with OPMP. NOI was published Aug 2013.		cooperating agencies. EPA is participating in weekly meetings for EIS and AQ MOU. Agency review SEIS chapters will be distributed this month (November) for review. BLM anticipates publishing Notice of Availability in the Federal Register on January 1, 2014. Alternatives are still being developed and results of AQ analysis will not be included in the agency review AQ sections.	

Project Title: Nuiqsut Spur Road

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) EPA: Gayle Martin (404)

		EPA issued 3(a) and 3(b) letters. Functional assessment was received and is currently being reviewed by EPA.	
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Project Title: Foothills West Access Project EIS (Road to Umiat)

Lead Federal Agency: COE

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (3) EPA Lead: Gayle Martin (404), (4) EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), (5) Corps Lead: Melissa Riordan, (6) Alaska DOT Lead: Ryan Anderson

Alaska DOT is applying to build the road from the Dalton Highway to Umiat, in the foothills of the Brooks Range, in order to open the area for resource (oil and gas) extraction. Corps of Engineers is in the scoping stage of the EIS development.	An EIS scoping report was issued in February 2012 and the draft EIS was anticipated for Fall 2013. Meetings held in June to discuss ice road logistics and development of alternatives. More meetings scheduled in	Federal permits required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COE: Section 404 wetlands, Section 106 Historical, Section 10 Rivers - EPA: Section 404 permit review - USFWS: Section 7 ESA 	State permits required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DNR: Maternal and Child Health - Right of Way - Water use - sales and taxes - authorization - DEC: APDE
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OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
<p>AECOM, the consultant on the EIS developed six alternatives and after review and screening, will carry forward the following three alternatives in the NEPA impact assessment process: (1) Galbraith Alternative (applicant's proposed action), (2) Pump Station 2 Alternative, and (3) Meltwater Route Alternative.</p> <p>http://www.foothillswesteis.com</p>	<p>November 2012 to discuss hydrology and river crossings. The November meetings have been postponed. The ACOE and AECOM sent out a project status report to the agencies (2/13)</p> <p>As of July 2013 – ADOT retracted the Corps 404 permit placing it on hold to be resurrected in the future if industry is not successful in building a road to Umiat (see below)</p>	<p>- USCG: Permit for bridge over navigable waters</p> <p>COE is waiting for additional information from State to complete alternatives analysis and to define purpose and need.</p> <p>EPA has not been contacted about this project in several months.</p>	<p>plus DEC h cleanup o Defense c</p> <p>- ADF&G: F passage</p> <p>DNR OPMP is agency.</p>

OIL AND GAS/ENERGY PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
<p>Project Title: LINC Umiat Development</p> <p>Lead Federal Agency: BLM/COE TBD</p> <p>Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Longan, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil</p>			
<p>LINC is applying to build a road and pipeline to Umiat, in the foothills of the Brooks Range.</p> <p>Permit and pre-permitting phase: LINC has been conducting environmental baseline studies to prepare for permitting.</p> <p>http://www.foothillswesteis.com</p>	<p>State agency coordination and pre-application meetings</p>	<p>Federal permits likely required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COE: Section 404 wetlands, Section 106 Historical, Section 10 Rivers - EPA: Section 404 permit review - USFWS: Section 7 ESA - USCG: Permit for bridge over navigable waters <p>EPA has not been involved in this project.</p>	<p>State permits likely required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DNR: Material Right of Way Water use sales and tax authorizat - DEC: APDE plus DEC h cleanup of Defense c - ADF&G: Fi passage <p>DNR OPMP is a</p>

FEDERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Arctic NWR Revised CCP/EIS

Lead Federal Agency: FWS

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: ANILCA Program, (2) EPA: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released the revised draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and EIS for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in August 2011. The draft plan includes new wilderness and wild and scenic river reviews and the EIS alternatives include various recommendations for designated wilderness and wild and scenic rivers, including within the 1002 Area of the coastal plain. http://arctic.fws.gov/ccp.htm	Revised CCP and Final EIS is expected in early 2014.	EPA rated the Draft EIS Lack of Objections (LO).	
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FEDERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Gates of the Arctic NPP/GMP Amendment and Lake Clark NPP/GMP Amendment

Lead Federal Agency: NPS

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: ANILCA Program, (2) EPA: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA)

<p>The National Park Service is developing a General Management Plan Amendment for the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. The plan amendment will recognize the ANILCA guaranteed access across the southern preserve unit to the Ambler Mining District, which is currently being evaluated by AIDA.</p> <p>http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=30266</p> <p>The National Park Service is developing a General Management Plan Amendment for the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.</p>	<p>Release date for draft plan and EA expected Winter 2014.</p> <p>Release date for draft plan and EA expected fall 2013.</p>		
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FEDERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Chugach National Forest Plan **Revision and EIS**

Lead Federal Agency: USFS

Responsible Person: (1) State Leads: Sylvia Kreel, (2) Kyle Moselle, (3) ANILCA Program, (4) Jennifer Curtis (NEPA)

<p>The Chugach NF is an "early Adopter" forest revising their forest plan under the new 2012 National Planning Rule. Current Chugach Forest Plan approved in 2002 under the 1982 National Planning Rule.</p> <p>Three phases of plan revision process: 1) Plan assessment, 2) Plan revision, and 3) Monitoring.</p>	<p>Forest Plan Assessment scheduled to start in Oct. 2012 and run through 2013. Plan revision expected to start in 2014 and be complete by 2016. Monitoring will occur during implementation.</p> <p>Public Meetings in November 2013. USFS estimates NOI in Federal Register in April 2014.</p>		
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FEDERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Tongass National Forest Plan

Lead Federal Agency: USFS

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Kyle Moselle

<p>The State was a cooperating agency in the development of the 2008 amended Tongass Forest Plan. The Plan is now due for its scheduled 5-year review.</p> <p>The review will consist of an assessment that will include 1) 5-year monitoring and evaluation report, 2) information needs assessment, identification of internal/external concerns, 4) Conservation Strategy review, and 5) crosswalk with National Planning Rule</p>	<p>Forest Plan Assessment started in Oct. 2012 and is scheduled to conclude in Sept. 2013. Plan revision is dependent on recommendations from the assessment process. Public comment period open Jan. 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013. State Tongass Team consolidated state comments, and participated in two Conservation Strategy review public meetings (June 18-19, 2013 in Ketchikan, and June 20-21, 2013 in Juneau).</p>	<p>Forest Service approached the State in March 2013 with an offer to participate in an advisory committee organized under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) to develop recommendations for a proposed action that would amend or revise the current Forest Plan. As of August 2013, the State is reviewing that proposal. The GO continues to meet with the Forest Service to discuss the FACA proposal.</p>	<p>Consolidated a regarding the 5 Forest Plan we cover letter sig Sullivan on July</p> <p>Staffs from DN and DFG-Habit both Conservat meetings (KTN</p> <p>The State Tong to review and development a the Tongass. R from DFG-Habi participate on i teams (IDT) wit specialists duri reviews. The C participates on team (JRT) to r specific benchr defensibility an compliance.</p>
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FEDERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Eastern Interior Resource Management Plan (RMP)

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Samantha Carroll, (2) EPA: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA)

This land use plan encompasses the Steese National Conservation Area, the White Mt. National Recreation Area, the Fortymile National Wild and Scenic River Corridor, and the public lands in the Upper Black River subunit.	<p>DEIS was published on 3/3/12</p> <p>1/11/13 released a supplement to address hardrock mineral leasing in the White Mt. NRA.</p> <p>Public comment on the DEIS and supplement ended on 4/11/13</p>	EPA rated the DEIS Lack of Objections (LO) and the SDEIS Environmental Concerns-Adequate Information (EC-1).	
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Project Title: East Alaska RMP/ Delta River EA amendment

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Samantha Carroll

This land use plan amendment revises the 1983 Delta River Management Plan and includes decision for the Delta River Special Recreation Management Area.	<p>FONSI, ROD and approved plan were signed on 3/29/13</p> <p>Federal register notice – plan takes affect.</p>		Delta River SMA inconsistent with consistency revision plan.
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FEDERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Ring of Fire RMP/ Haines Block Supplemental EIS

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Samantha Carroll, (2) EPA: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA)

Plan considers portion of the Haines planning block and if it meets the requirements for: 1) designation as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC); 2) whether to retain the Haines Block Special Recreation Management Area designation and; 3) to analyze the effects of aviation-supported guiding services.	DEIS comment period closed 3/14/13 FEIS release was anticipated for late summer 2013	EPA rated the SDEIS Lack of Objection (LO).	.
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Project Title: Bering Sea – Western Interior RMP EIS

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Samantha Carroll, (2) EPA: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA)

This plan encompasses approx. 62 million acres, of which only 10.6 million acres constitute BLM lands.	Scoping comments are due December 16, 2013.	EPA is currently drafting scoping comments.	
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FEDERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Central Yukon RMP EIS

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Samantha Carroll, (2) EPA: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA)

This land use plan will revise and replace the Utility Corridor RMP, the Central Yukon RMP and parts of the Southwest Management Framework Plan.	Preplan was signed in April 2013 NOI was issued on 6/14/13, kicking off the 180 day scoping period – comments are due to BLM on 12/11/13	EPA is currently developing scoping comments.	
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Project Title: Kobuk Seward RMP/Squirrel River EA amendment

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Samantha Carroll

The EA will re-evaluate the SRMA designation, define travel management network, and make implementation level decisions on user conflicts.	Scoping Report is complete BLM is drafting RMP amendment		
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MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
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Project Title: Greens Creek Mine Tailings Expansion EIS

Lead Federal Agency: USFS

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team; OPMP Coordinator: Jack DiMarchi, (2) DEC Leads: Kenwyn George, (3) Allan Nakanishi (WW), (4) Doug Buteyn (SW), (5) Tim Pilon (APDES), (6) DF&G Lead: Kate Kanouse, (7) EPA Leads: Lynne McWhorter (NEPA), (8) Cindi Godsey (WW), (9) TBD (404), (10) Lorraine Edmond, (11) Corps Lead: Jack Hewitt, (12) Hecla contacts: Chris Wallace (Env), (13) Scott Hartman (General Mgr), (14) USFS Lead: Sarah Samuelson

<p>This silver- zinc-lead mine is located southwest of Juneau on Admiralty Island within a non-wilderness portion of the Admiralty Island National Monument. Based on known and anticipated ore reserves, the mine has a remaining life of approximately 22 years and will require a surface disposal capacity for roughly 6 million tons of tailings. Under the current permit, however, the existing tailings facility has capacity for only 1 million tons.</p> <p>http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass/projects/nepa_project.shtml?project=32662 Link to EIS info on tailings expansion.</p> <p>The EPA, Corp of Engineers, DNR and the City and Borough of Juneau are all cooperating agencies on the U.S. Forest Service EIS.</p>	<p>MOU with USFS and SOA for cooperation needs renewal.</p> <p>Hecla submitted new SRCE bond estimate in February, 2013. SOA and USFS reviewing and commenting to Hecla.</p> <p>The renewal of the APDES permit to Greens Creek Mine was appealed through the DEC informal review process by the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC). The permit was remanded to staff for additional work on mixing zone size and anti-backsliding issues.</p> <p>Annual report is posted on DNR Large Mine website .</p>	<p>EPA concerned with lack of long-term financial assurance in Draft EIS. EPA comments on 404 permit included call for compensatory mitigation off-site and out-of-kind waters. High ratio (1:10) for in lieu fees to offset lost wetlands functions</p> <p>Final EIS and ROD issued Sept ember 9, 2013. USFS chose a modified Alternative D (18 acre expansion of existing drystack w/ no diversion of Tributary Creek). COE will separately conduct 404(b)(1) analysis and wetland mitigation.</p> <p>EPA is currently reviewing the Final EIS and will submit comments by November 13, 2013.</p>
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Project Title: Red Dog Zn-Pb

Lead Federal Agency: COE

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team; OPMP Coordinator: Jack DiMarchi, (2) DEC Leads: Tim Pilon, (3) Pete McGee, (4) DF&G Lead: Bill Morris, (5) DNR Lead: Brent Martellero, (6) COE Lead: Don Kuhle, (7) EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (8) Teck Alaska: Chris Eckert, (9) Chris Menefee (Env), (10) Henri Letient (Gen. Mgr)

One of AK's longest operating open pit mines	DEC APDESdraft permit for the Port site scheduled for	The NPDES permit was	The Red Dog APDES permit was issued on February 15, 2013. Trustees of
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MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
<p>and a world-class zinc-lead deposit. The mine is located in northwestern Alaska, approximately 82 miles north of Kotzebue, and 46 miles inland from the coast of the Chukchi Sea. It has been operating continuously since its opening in 1989.</p>	<p>originally scheduled for May 2012 has completed management review. Applicant review and public notice began October 2013.</p> <p>Next major action: 5 year environmental audit required in 2013. Teck and SOA reviewed 4 proposals and AECOM was chosen as the contractor. AECOM on site August 28-31. Meetings with state agencies will be scheduled after the site visit and preliminary findings.</p>	<p>appealed to the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) and the permit was upheld. Trustees for Alaska has appealed that ruling to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. 9th Circuit upheld EPA's SSC Decision.</p> <p>Alaska has appealed the permit. The appeal was partially stayed for those issues at question in the 9th Circuit Court appeal and the remaining issues were referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for an adjudicatory hearing. At issue are reinstated WAD cyanide and TDS limits and backsliding analysis. DEC is evaluating a mixing zone for selenium. A new draft went to applicant for a 10-day review in October 2013.</p> <p>In fall 2011, Dam Safety issued an NOV for design issues on the dam and the certificate to operate. A dam safety review panel released report in October 2012. The panel was a condition of the Dam Safety NOV. A meeting of the review board is scheduled this fall.</p> <p>A cert to modify main dam for Stage IX six foot raise was approved and construction is in progress. A wing wall for the dam was completed in August. .</p>

MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
<p>Project Title: Chuitna Coal Project Supplemental EIS</p> <p>Lead Federal Agency: COE</p> <p>Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team; OPMP Coordinator: Tom Crafford, (2) DEC Lead: Allan Nakanishi (WW), (3) DMLW Lead: Russ Kirkham, (4) DHSS Lead: Dr. Paul Anderson, (5) EPA Leads: Jamey Stoddard (WW), (6) Erik Peterson (NEPA), (7) Matt LaCroix (404), (8) Corps Leads: Marcia Heer, (9) Shane McCoy</p>		
<p>This proposed surface coal mine is located 45 miles west of Anchorage near Tyonek. The proposed 300-million ton project would extract low sulfur sub-bituminous coal from the Beluga Coal Field. Project prediction is for a minimum 25-year life of the mine with a production rate of up to 12 million tons per year for export.</p> <p>The project was previously permitted in the 1990's, but not developed. Subsequent project changes have mandated a SEIS. The NEPA/permitting process began in 2006 with EPA as the lead agency. In late 2010 USACE assumed the lead agency role because the State assumed authority for NPDES (APDES) permitting for mining projects on Oct 31, 2010. Additional data requirements for the new project have delayed completion of the NEPA review. As of early May, 2013, a completed Permit Application for the facilities components has not been submitted, with a separate application for the mine itself to follow. www.chuitnaseis.com website states Draft</p> <p>Recent meetings have been held re: Section 106 Consultation/Cultural Resource issues and Wetlands Function Methodology and agency comments were submitted in Oct 2012 re: the Draft Revised Groundwater Model Report. Water Management Plan is pending.</p> <p>Project has been the subject of multiple challenges, including Single biggest issue is potential removal of ~11 miles, with subsequent restoration, of a salmon stream (#2003) that is a tributary to the Chuit River.</p> <p>A recent court case ruled DNR must document how it considers In Stream Flow Applications when making decisions on issuance of Temp. Water Use Permits</p>	<p>No permits have been issued. Awaiting completed ASCMCRA permit apps from PRC.</p> <p>Federal permitting will begin once SEIS is completed. DSEIS was expected Nov '13, Final EIS Oct '14, but at May 14, 2013 Cooperating Agency Teleconference, no target dates were stated for DSEIS or SEIS.</p> <p>EPA, SOA, NMFS & NVT are Cooperating Agencies.</p> <p>Steve Braund is conducting additional cultural resource investigations with revised project component areas (elevated conveyor, camp/airstrip, etc.). Work completion expected Aug 2013.</p> <p>COE is developing a cost matrix template for mine design alternatives.</p>	<p>www.chuitnaseis.com is SEIS website</p> <p>PRC has responded to requests re: alternatives to be considered in SEIS Ch. 2</p> <p>Pile supported bulkhead is being considered</p> <p>USACE had G2G mtg with NVT on April 22. Col. Lestochi is to make June'13 visit to NVT</p> <p>Bird Collision Analysis & JASCO Underwater Noise Assessments posted to extranet site.</p>

MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
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Project Title: Pogo Mine Tailings Facility Expansion

Lead Federal Agency: COE

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team; OPMP Coordinator: Jack DiMarchi, (2)

DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW), (3) DNR Lead: Brent Martellaro, (4) EPA Leads: Cindi Godsey (WW), (5)

Matt LaCroix (404), (6) Corps Lead: Ben Soiseth (7) Sumitomo: Sally McLeod (Env.), (8) Chris Kennedy (Gen. Mgr)

<p>This conventional underground gold mine is located 90 miles southeast of Fairbanks. Delta Junction is 40 miles southwest. Project Operator is Sumitomo Metal Mining (SMM) Plan to expand their dry stack tailing facility. This requires a modification of their 404 permit.</p> <p>Pogo Project has recently (Nov, 2011) announced the discovery of substantial nearby gold resources that will likely be developed into reserves that will add considerably to the mine life. Sumitomo will begin preliminary projects for East Deep expansion. Hydrology studies; new power distribution;</p>	<p>Grouting program for dry stack area completed in late spring, 2013.</p> <p>SCRE model review with SOA and SMM held June 2013</p> <p>Waste water treatment plant will be expanded; construction this summer. Two sand filters were added to WTP #2 in 2012.</p>	<p>Drystack expansion required more wetland loss than originally permitted. (less than 1 acre). Pogo self reported to COE additional 404 permitting coverage for 2.8 acres impacted in Jan. 2013.</p> <p>SMM is meeting with EPA Region 10 week of August 26 to discuss Air permit requirements. SMM upgrades and required stack tests are at issue.</p>	<p>Pogo cost Recla and meth</p> <p>Bond Cons diver</p> <p>State and s unde July, secti new agen sche</p>
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Project Title: Fort Knox

Lead Federal Agency:

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team; OPMP Coordinator: Tom Crafford, (2)

DEC Leads: Tim Pilon (WW), (3) Ken Spires (SW), (4) EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (WW), (5) Corps Lead: Ben Soiseth

<p>Open-pit gold mine located 26 miles NE of Fairbanks; produces 330,000 ounces of gold/year. Located on State of Alaska Mental Health Trust lands. Operator is Fairbanks Gold Mine, Inc (FGBI), a subsidiary of Kinross Gold Corp. Project includes a conventional gold milling operation and a large valley-fill heap leach</p> <p>Environmental Audit was finalized May, 2012. On July 3, 2012 the Plan of Ops Approval was administratively extended to 3July13, and interim financial assurances in the form of an LOC</p>	<p>Air Quality permit was effective Sept 4, 2012.</p> <p>APDES for discharge of de-watering water finalized October 2012</p>		<p>St 5 Fi ex R& An M ~C fo</p>
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MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
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<p>for Ft. Knox/True North were increased to \$65,785,767. A Dam Safety Certificate of Approval for construction of Working Base Platform, preparatory to construction of a not yet approved raise of the tailings dam to an elevation of 1555', 15' above the currently approved 1540' elevation.</p> <p>FGMI interested in developing the Gil deposit, about 6 mi. E of Fort Knox, but anticipated cost of Compensatory Mitigation is a concern.</p>		
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Project Title: Gil Project

Lead Federal Agency: NA

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team; OPMP Coordinator: Tom Crafford, (2)

DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW), (3) Ken Spires (SW), (4) Corps Leads: Ben Soiseth, (5) Ellen Lyons

Initial discussions held Sept 4 re: potential development of Gil Project. Project site is 8 miles east of Ft. Knox Mill, FGMI is project proponent. Concept is development of open pit with associated valley-fill heap leach. Would be essentially stand alone project, i.e., little linkage with Ft. Knox operation.		Corps & State agencies provided thoughts on baseline studies, potential issues, etc.
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Project Title: Donlin Gold Project

Lead Federal Agency: Corps Lead: Don Kuhle

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team; OPMP Coordinator: Jeff Bruno, (2) DEC

Leads: Renee Evans (WW), (3) Lori Aldridge (SW), (4) ADFG Leads: Bill Morries, (5) Jim Simons, (6) Lee McKinley, (7) EPA Leads: Mark Jen (PM), (8) Matt LaCroix (404), (9) Cindi Godsey (WW)

<p>The proposed Donlin Creek Mine is located near the Kuskokwim River Village of Crooked Creek in Southwest Alaska, approximately 120 miles upstream from Bethel. It is a large (on the order of 40 million ounces of gold), undeveloped refractory gold deposit on lands owned by the Kuskokwim Village Corporation (surface) and Calista Regional Corporation (subsurface). The proposal is for an open pit mine measuring two miles wide and one mile wide. Project proponent is Donlin Gold Inc., a partnership of Barrick Gold Corp and NovaGold, Inc. They plan to build a 300+ mile natural gas pipeline to provide power for the mine operations. The Kuskokwim Basin is a mercury province and there are nearby mercury ore deposits with a history of production (Red Devil).</p> <p>Project proponent submitted 404 permit application in 2012 which started the EIS process. This could be the 1st time a mining project proposes perpetual water treatment as an initial permitting component. Estimated startup capital costs for the project are \$6.7 billion, including \$834 million for the natural gas pipeline.</p> <p>Cooperating Agencies are reviewing NEPA alternative process in July 2013.</p>	<p>DEIS – August 2014 FEIS – December 2015 ROD – December 2015</p>
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Project Title: Pebble Cu-Au-Mo Project

Lead Federal Agency: COE likely

MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
<p>Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team; OPMP Coordinator: Jack DiMarchi, (2) DEC Leads: Allan Nakanishi (WW), (3) Lori Aldridge (SW), (4) EPA Leads: Rick Parkin (PM for BBWA), (5) Cindi Godsey (WW), (6) TBD (404), (7) Corps Leads: Katie McCafferty, (8) Dave Casey (Kenai office), (9) Pebble Ltd. Partnership: Dan Easton, (10) Charlotte MacCay</p> <p>Pebble Project is a very large copper-gold-molybdenum mineral deposit located 200 miles southwest of Anchorage on state land. It contains components that, if developed, would likely involve both a large open-pit surface mine and an underground block cave operation. The project is in an advanced state of exploration, development permit applications have not yet been submitted. Proponent is the Pebble Limited Partnership (Anglo-American and Northern Dynasty).</p> <p>PLP expects to complete a pre-feasibility study in 2013. The project would require road access and a supply power in addition to the project's mining footprint. Mine life could be 50-100 years, possibly more.</p> <p>The project is the focus of national attention/opposition. In response to a petition from nine tribal governments, EPA has initiated a watershed assessment of the Nushagak and Kvichak watersheds in Bristol Bay under the authority of Section 404(c) of the Clean Water Act.</p> <p>The "Save Our Salmon" ballot initiative which would effectively prohibit Pebble development was narrowly approved by Lake and Peninsula Borough voters in November, 2011. PLP and the State are both challenging the legality of the SOS Initiative.</p> <p>PLP (early Feb, 2012 held meetings with agencies to present summaries of baseline studies and released ~27,000 pages of study results for the time period 2004-2008.</p> <p>State submitted comments to EPA on External Peer review on 6/26/12. Comments on EPA draft BBWA from OPMP and AG submitted July 23, 2012. State staff attended public meeting in ANC on peer review.(See update under Federal column).</p>	<p>Still in pre-application phase. Anticipate application will be submitted in late 2013.</p> <p>It is anticipated that planning and permitting the project will take approximately seven years.</p> <p>Agency inspections will begin in early summer 2013. PLP has a limited geotechnical drilling program for 2013. Drilling began June 15. 2013 exploration activities include drilling which require MLUPs and TWUPs at sites in main Pebble block, KAS, and Kaskanak. DF&G deployed three Hydrolabs in Upper Talarik and N and S Kaktuli Creeks.</p> <p>Trustees of Alaska continues comment on TWUPs, habitat permits, MLUPs this season.</p> <p>PLP is meeting with COE, OPMP and DF&G to discuss issues with mine plan and COE preliminary permit application. PLP will conduct outreach in BB communities in late summer to explain ~20 yr mine plan in "layman" terms.</p> <p>Anglo American pulled out of the Pebble mine project in which it was half owner with the Vancouver-based mineral exploration and development company Northern Dynasty on September 23.</p>	<p>EPA is performing a watershed assessment of the Bristol Bay watershed (BBWA). Rick Parkin is the EPA lead.</p> <p>EPA held BBWA external science panel meeting August 2012 and released findings. A new peer review was conducted on some support documents. EPA released revised draft of Bristol Bay assessment April 26, 2013. Public comments were due to on May 31, 2013. EPA extended comment until June 30, 2013.</p> <p>EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy visited Bristol Bay and Pebble area end of August 2013. She sent letter to PLP dated September 30 explaining that the company's SEC filings indicated that a mine life shorter than 45 years would not be economically viable.</p>

MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
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Project Title: Livengood Project

Lead Federal Agency:

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team, (2) DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW), (3) ADF&G Lead: Bill Morris, (4) EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey, (5) Corps Lead: Lenore Heppler, (6) BLM Leads: Matthew Reece, (7) Ben Soiseth

<p>This gold mining project is located 70 miles northwest of Fairbanks. International Tower Hill (ITH) is proponent; no recent dates for pre-feasibility study, NEPA or pre-application for state permits. Will require 404 permits. At March 19 2012 annual data meeting, ITH announced they are no longer pursuing the placer deposits at the site. No detailed mine plans yet. Initial HIA discussions are scheduled April 10 with HSS but ITH has delayed work on HIA this FY. DF&G continues bio-monitoring at site.</p>	<p>This project is in holding status pending financing. Camp/offices at site closed and all site work is handled out of Fairbanks ITH office.</p>	
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MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
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Project Title: Usibelli Jumbo Dome Mine

Lead Federal Agency:

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Project Team, (2) DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW), (3) DMLW Lead: Russ Kirkham

<p>The Usibelli Coal Mine is located near Healy and is expanding through the acquisition of state leases in an area known as Jumbo Dome. The coal is sub-bituminous C with very low sulfur content. Usibelli filed a Pre-Construction Notification with the Corp in June 2011 to be covered under Nationwide Permit 21. The Corps denied the use of the Nationwide Permit 21 for this project on July 15, 2011 and directed Usibelli to obtain an individual 404 permit in order to disturb approximately 160 acres wetlands over 40 years. Usibelli has requested reconsideration of the Corp's denial, with a support letter from Sen. Murkowski. NOTE: The Corp's Nationwide 21 permit expires in 2012 and may or may not be reauthorized. If reauthorized, may be modified to restrict disturbance through the use of acreage limits.</p> <p>Formal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) permit has been submitted to DNR coal section for review. Permit application is currently undergoing completeness review. DEC is evaluating mine water management options. ADF&G is working with the applicant on Title 16 fish passage permits. EPA is reviewing the Usibelli's permit application to use the Nationwide 21 Permit under the General Permit Agency Coordination process; comments are due to the Corps on 11/1/11.</p> <p>DEC staff met with Usibelli Coal Mine staff to discuss coverage under the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP). Usibelli claims the mine will have zero discharge and does not need coverage under the MSGP. DEC disagrees.</p>	<p>Wastewater disposal permit application is pending in early 2012</p>	
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Project Title: Usibelli Wishbone Hill Mine

Lead Federal Agency:

Responsible Person: (1) DEC Lead: Allan Nakanishi (WW), (2) DNR Lead: Russ Kirkham, (3) EPA Lead: CIndi Godsey (WW), (4) Tami Fordham (Tribal), (5) Corps Lead: TBD

<p>Usibelli is seeking permits from the state in order to mine coal from 800 acres near Palmer and Sutton in the Matanuska Valley. Project is located on State Mental Health Trust and private lands. The mine would produce up to 500,000 tons of coal per year for 12 years. There is local concern about potential impacts from fugitive dust. The Native Village of Chickaloon has also voiced concern about potential impacts to drinking water, surface and groundwater, subsistence foods, and religious and cultural practices. Usibelli applied in a</p>	<p>Air Permit (State)</p> <p>NPDES Permit</p> <p>404 Permit (could trigger NEPA)</p>	
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MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
<p>timely manner for a 5-year renewal of the Surface Mining permit that was set to expire in November, 2011. The original deadline for public comment on the permit renewal was October 14, but was extended to November 15 at the request of the local community. The DEC Air Quality Division was working with Usibelli on an air quality minor permit, but Usibelli withdrew the permit application in mid-October. Usibelli has since refiled its Air Quality permit application. A request for a detailed health impact assessment (HIA) was submitted to the Dept. of Health & Social Services on June 13 after the department had completed a "draft rapid assessment". A similar request was attempted to be submitted through the Mat/Su Borough Assembly, but that request was denied</p>		

MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
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Project Title: Niblack Project

Lead Federal Agency:

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Projects Team; OPMP Coordinator: Kyle Moselle, (2)

DEC Leads: Kenwyn George (WW), (3) Doug Buteyn (SW), (4) ADF&G Lead: Mark Minillo, (5) EPA Lead:

Cindi Godsey, (6) Corps Lead: Dave Casey

<p>The Niblack Mine is a copper-gold-silver-zinc project located on Prince of Wales Island southwest of Ketchikan. The proponent is Heatherdale Resources, a Hunter-Dickinson group company (HDI is also parent of Northern Dynasty). The Project is in an advanced exploration phase, including approval for up to 6,000 feet of underground tunneling and 25,000 feet of underground drilling. Niblack holds 6,200 acres of federal and state mineral claims and 250 acres of patented (private) land.</p> <p>All current disturbances are on patented land, but some surface exploration has occurred within the adjacent Inventoried Roadless Areas of the Tongass National Forest. DNR and the Forest Service approved additional geotechnical and exploration drilling in 2012, which the company conducted. However, the site has been in a temporary closure since Oct. 2012 following that season's surface exploration activities. Heatherdale Resources hopes to initiate a pre-feasibility study for the mining project in early CY2014, leading to a final feasibility study and permit applications, possibly in late CY2014 or early CY2015. Development proposals may include off-site processing of ore (two sites in Ketchikan are being considered). Power at the mine site could eventually come from hydroelectric resources.</p>	<p>Pre-application phase, advanced exploration</p> <p>APMA approved June 4, 2012, and Plan of Operations approved June 7, 2012, for surface exploration.</p> <p>A draft Air Permit for diesel generators to support the Old Camp buildings was released on July 5, 2012.</p> <p>Niblack plans to complete a feasibility study (2013 or 2014) for locating milling facility north of Ketchikan Airport on Gravina Is.</p> <p>Application to develop could come sometime in CY2015</p>	<p>USFS approved surface exploration drilling in 2001</p> <p>Inventoried Roadless Area #507 on June 7, 2012.</p>
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MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
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Project Title: Rock Creek Mine [now Nanuuq Project under Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC)]

Lead Federal Agency:

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Projects Team; OPMP Coordinator: Jack DiMarchi, (2) DEC Leads: Tim Pilon (WW), (3) Doug Buteyn (SW), (4) DNR lead: Brent Martellaro (5) ADF&G Lead: Laura Jacobs, (6) EPA Leads: Cindi Godsey, (7) Thor Cutler (UIC), (8) Corps Lead: Don Kuhl(?) (9) Lead for BSNC: Consultant Frank Bergstrom, (10) Harry Noah

<p>Consists of open-pit gold mines: Rock Creek Mine located six miles north of Nome and Big Hurrah Mine located 42 miles east of Nome. NovaGold transferred its subsidiary, Alaska Gold Co., which owns the project to Berings Straits Native Corp. on Nov 1, 2012. Big Hurrah Mine located on land owned by Alaska Gold Co. and surrounding lands owned by Salomon Native Corporation.</p> <p>A reclamation & closure plan was approved in Feb, 2012.</p> <p>The State signed off on the Phase I reclamation and responsibility for Phase II transferred with Alaska Gold Co. to Bering Straits Native Corp (BSNC) on Nov 1 and \$6.8 million of the \$20.3 million financial assurances were released. The remainder remained with Alaska Gold Co. when it was transferred to BSNC.</p> <p>DNR/MLW will require new personal bond and eventually updates to the Reclamation plan to reflect Phase I completion. DEC Waste Mgmt Permit will expire and new monitoring plan will be required.</p>	<p>AGC & financial assurances transferred Nov 1 to BSNC. State inspection of Phase I close was completed. Dam Safety has issued letter removing breached dam from state jurisdiction in August 2012.</p> <p>NovaGold submitted a final annual report on the project in March, 2013.</p> <p>BSNC continues to provide quarterly monitoring reports required by the permits.</p> <p>As of July 2013, no further efforts for at least a year for resumed mining of Rock Creek/Big Harrah under so-called Nanuuq Gold project based on financial and ore delineation issues.</p>	
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Project Title: Kensington Gold Mine

Lead Federal Agency: USFS

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Projects Team; OPMP Coordinator: Kyle Moselle (2) DEC Leads: Kenwyn George (WW), (3) Doug Buteyn (SW), (4) ADF&G Lead: Kate Kanouse, (5) USFS Lead: Sarah Samuelson, (6) EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey, (7) Corps Lead: Dave Casey

<p>Operating gold mine located 45 miles north of Juneau. Operator is Coeur Alaska, Inc. Began production in June 2010 and expect to produce 125,000 ounces of gold per year.</p>	<p>AHEA permit became effective September 1, 2011</p> <p>Plan of Ops. and AHEA submitted for 2013 surface exploration. Approved</p>	<p>Forest Service approved an updated Reclamation and Closure Plan in May 2013, with an</p>
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MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
	<p>by DNR June 24, 2013, and approved by the USFS on June 7, 2013.</p> <p>DEC initiate public comment period and review of IWMP on Aug. 9, 2013. Approval expected in late Sept. or early Oct. 2013.</p>	<p>increased Financial Assurance amount of \$28.7 mil.</p>

MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
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Project Title: Nixon Fork Mine

Lead Federal Agency: BLM

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Projects Team; OPMP Coordinator: Jack DiMarchi, (2)

DEC Leads: Tim Pilon (WW), (3) Lori Aldrich (EH/Solid Waste), (4) BLM leads: James Whitlock

(compliance), (5) Alan Bittner (ANC Field Mgr), (6) EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey, (6) Fire River Gold: Blane

Wilson (Gen. Mgr), (7) Larry Wilson (Env)

<p>Consists of an underground gold mine located 32 miles northeast of McGrath. Located in an area of historic mining. Operator is Fire River Gold. Mine resumed production July 4, 2011. After March 2012 overtopping, dam safety, BLM and DEC/Water enforcement required corrective action. Blane Wilson appointed new FRG CEO and President in August, 2012 and Larry Wilson new Env. Mgr in November, 2012.</p>	<p>WMP and R&C plan with bond of \$6.033M were finalized in May, 2012. Bond MOU with BLM has been finalized June 2012</p> <p>FRG must submit new Water Management Plan to BLM by May 2013 to forestall the suspension of milling based on BLM compliance inspection and letter of notice of potential suspension.</p> <p>Amended Plan of Ops to BLM and State week of July 8, 2013. BLM extended May deadline. In late June, Fire River Gold announced the mine would go into "care and maintenance" status due to changed financial outlook. Underground staff and geologists have been laid off. As of last August, site closure is well underway, with closure of adits and mill, fuel consolidation, and other activities. 14 staff on site as of late August, 2013.</p> <p>FRG is remediating legacy fuel spills and a recent one under a Corrective Action Plan approved by DEC in August 2013. . Land farming of contaminated soil was approved by DEC and BLM.</p>	<p>BLM will require an amended Plan of Operations by May 31, 2013. If the new plans veer from original NEPA EA document, a new NEPA review may be required from BLM.</p> <p>FRG submitted amended Plan of Operations in July 2013 to BLM and state. Shortly after, FRG announced plans for temporary closure. Both BLM and SOA required a temporary closure plan which FRG submitted in August. Both BLM and State submitted comment on August 23 and FRG is amending the plan .</p> <p>If mine goes into closure of more than 90 days, both state and BLM will require additional measures</p>
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Project Title: Bokan Mountain/Dotson Ridge REE

Lead Federal Agency: USFS

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Large Mine Projects Team; OPMP Coordinator: Kyle Moselle, (2)

DEC Lead: Kenwyn George (WW), (3) ADF&G Lead: Mark Minillo, (4) USFS Lead: Sarah Samuelson, (5)

EPA Lead: , (6) Corps Lead: Dave Casey

MINING PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal
<p>The Bokan-Dotson Ridge Rare Earth Element (REE) prospect is located on the southern end of Prince of Wales Island, approximately 37 miles southwest of Ketchikan. The proponent is Ucore Rare Metals, Inc, and the property consists of approximately 10,000 acres of federal mining claims on the Tongass National Forest. The REE resource is primarily contained in narrow dikes, but with good grade and high heavy/light REE ration. The Bokan-Dotson Ridge REE Project area is located along Dotson Ridge adjacent to Bokan Mountain (site of the historic Ross Adams uranium mine, last operated by Newmont Mining Corporation).</p> <p>Ucore released their preliminary economic assessment (PEA) for the Bokan Mountain REE project January 10, 2013. http://ucore.com/pea/.</p> <p>On July 16, 2013, the company announced that contractors had been retained to draft the initial Plan of Operations for the development of the Project. Ucore Rare Metals has expressed plans to submit applications to the Forest Service and state regulatory agencies for development of the Bokan-Dotson Ridge REE Project by the end of CY2013. A feasibility study is needed before production could begin.</p>	<p>2012 Plan of Ops. for shallow well and geotechnical drilling to determine soil stability for facilities was approved by Forest Service on July 8, 2013. (NEPA delays were first caused by negative comments from NGO during first scoping under a Categorical Exclusion process. The Forest Service responded by initiating a revised scoping under an Environmental Assessment (EA). Second delay was due to comments from the SOA recommending the Forest Service better describe areas common to both the Ross Adams CERCLA clean-up and the Bokan Mountain REE mine project in the EA/FONSI).</p> <p>Baseline data being collected. Ucore has expressed plans to submit applications by end of CY2013.</p>	<p>Plan of Operationf for geotechnical drilling approved by the USFS on July 8, 2013. Ucore plans to complete that work in 2014.</p>

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Northern Rail Extension

Lead Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Jeff Bruno, (2) EPA Lead: Matt LaCroix (404), (3) Corps Lead: Ellen Lyons

<p>This project involves the construction of a new 80-mile rail line from North Pole to Delta Junction. The federal Surface Transportation Board completed an environmental impact statement (EIS) in 2009 and issued a Record of Decision in January 2010. EPA expressed concerns re: the purpose and need. Phase I of the project includes the construction of a new bridge across the Tanana River. In December 2010 the EPA declared the Tanana River an Aquatic Resource of National Significance (ARNI) and concluded that the project does not comply with the Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) guidelines and would have "substantial and unacceptable adverse effects on the Tanana River." Under a memorandum of agreement with the Army Corp of Engineers, EPA exercised their right to review the permit, but agreed in early June 2011 to allow the permit to go forward.</p> <p>Delays with Section 9 Permit (approval from US Coast Guard (USCG) for bridge construction) across the Tanana River have the RR concerned about project schedule. The USCG has identified this as a "high priority" but it is unclear to what that means as far as timing with the section 9 permit and could possibly delay the schedule if not issued in the near future.</p>	<p>Construction of Phase 1 has begun and they hope to begin Phase II in the next fiscal year. Limited resource agency involvement at this point. ARRC has announced that navigation in the bridge area is prohibited until April 2014.</p>		<p>Northern Rail is segment 1 and has the funding to start. The state has ask OPMP to start until they receive start on segment</p>
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Project Title: Port Mackenzie Rail Extension

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Lead Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Jeff Bruno, (2) EPA Lead: Matt LaCroix (404), (3) Corps Lead: Ben Soiseth

<p>This project proposes the construction of a 30 – 45 mile rail extension line from the Matanuska-Susitna Valley to Port MacKenzie in order to transport freight from Interior Alaska. The federal Surface Transportation Board (STB) released the Final EIS on March 25, 2011. The STB released issued the Record of Decision (ROD) on November 21st 2011. The ROD was jointly petitioned for reconsideration, on the last day to appeal, by the Sierra Club and Cook Inlet Keeper. No injunction has been filed at this time.</p> <p>On January 26th, 2012, the FAA denied the Railroad access across the Big Lake VORTAC site. This is a State lease in which FAA has the right to deny incompatible uses. The project will likely need to find an alternative route around this tract of land. No alternative was evaluated for this scenario in the NEPA process.</p> <p>Current efforts are being focused on modifying and updating ADF&G and DNR permits, satisfying the Mitigation Measures within the ROD, and fulfilling requirements of Programmatic Agreement with SHPO.</p> <p>The SC Region is in the process of issuing easements for the rail alignment. They are collecting the additional information they deem necessary. This will be going out for an agency review (21-30 days) then to public notice (30 days). The Mat-Su Borough and the State are</p>	<p>Cook Inlet Keeper and Sierra Club appealed the EIS by the STB, though did not ask for an injunction.</p> <p>Oral arguments on appeal scheduled for Nov 8 before 9th Circuit.</p> <p>In process of drafting MOU with AKRR & MSB re: Section line use. Concurrence needed from ADOT & ADNR.</p>		
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TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
<p>working towards transferring the DNR land to the Borough and the easements are the next step within that process. South Central Region needs to close old DOT ROW application so that the AKRR easement and the land transfer can take place, because The DOT ROW overlaps with the Rail ROW.</p> <p>Land transfers have both completed their administrative process to handle transferring the State land to the Borough through RADS. The transfer will not happen until the as built for the project is complete.</p> <p>SCRO issued a second EEA and construction for segments 1,3,4</p>			

Project Title: Izembek Land Exchange EIS

Lead Federal Agency: USFWS

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Samantha Carroll, (2) DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, (3) USFWS Lead: Stephanie Brady, (4) EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), (5) Matt LaCroix (404), (6) Corps Lead: Heather Boyer

<p>Congress has approved the land exchange, but an EIS for the land exchange needs to be done for a single lane gravel road connecting the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay. USFWS (URS as contractor) has completed the FEIS and intends to issue the Record of Decision (ROD) scheduled for March 18, 2013. Secretary of the Interior will need to do a public interest determination if the land exchange is in the public interest.</p> <p>Cooperating Agencies: COE, Federal Highway Administration, SOA, Aleutians East Borough, City of King Cove, King Cove Corp., Agdaagux</p>	<p>The EPA federal register notice for the FEIS was dated 2/15/13 and will run through 3/18/13</p> <p>The DOI Secretary will determine if the Land Exchange is in the public interest.</p> <p>Following the USFWS' announcement of a 'No Action' alternative, outgoing DOI Secretary Salazar directed Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, Mr. Kevin Washburn to prepare a report detailing the City of King Cove's emergency</p>	<p>If the Land Exchange is approved a Supplemental EIS will need to be developed to address wetland analysis for COE 404 permitting.</p> <p>Secretary of Interior Sally Jewel visited King Cove last week of August but stated that no decision imminent.</p>	<p>If the Land Exchange is approved ADOT/FHWA will develop the road to state standards. ADF&G authorize permit for activity in Game Refuge.</p>
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TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
Tribe of King Cove, and the Native Village of Belkofski.	<p>evacuation situation and to conduct a Government-to-Government tribal meeting. Mr. Washburn visited the King Cove and Cold Bay region June 27-29th. This report will inform the new DOI Secretary Sally Jewel in her decision to find the land exchange and road in the public interest. If the additional reviews identify significant new circumstances or information that has bearing on the action, the department will conduct a supplemental NEPA process. Secretary Jewel is expected to visit the area on August 30th, 2013.</p> <p>Legislative authority for the Act authorizing the land exchange provided a 7-year timeline and expires in 2016, unless a 'construction permit' is applied for – we assume this is the ACOE 404 as this permit is detailed in the Act. If a construction permit is applied for within the 7 years, an additional 5 years is added to the timeline, which would then end in 2021.</p>		

Project Title: Knik Arm Crossing (KABATA)

Lead Federal Agency: Federal Highway Authority

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Sara Taylor, (2) EPA Lead: Heather Dean, (3) Corps Lead: Nicole Hayes

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
<p>The proposed project would build a 2.7 mile vehicular toll bridge across Knik Arm b/w the Port of Anchorage area and the Port Mackenzie area, including 19 miles of road to support the bridge's accessibility. This project is being developed to meet the current and projected transportation needs of Anchorage and the Mat-Su Borough and was identified as a high priority infrastructure project by the Governor in September 2003.</p> <p>The U.S. DOT, FHWA, Knik Arm Bridge & Toll Authority and Alaska DOT are the lead agencies for this project. Final design and construction could be completed as early as 2018. Planners are currently working on obtaining properties and working with contractors scheduling surveys for the as-built completion.</p>	<p>Rep. Neuman introduced HB 23 related to bonding (\$600m) and reserve funds (\$10m); Rep. Huggins introduced an identical SB 13. While in House Rules, Rep. Costello proposed amending HB 23 to dismantle KABATA and transfer the project to AHFC. As amended, HB 23 passed the House 24-15-1; the bill was sent to Senate Finance (SB 13 had previously been referred to Finance, also). No action was taken on either bill before the first session closed.</p>	<p>NMFS issued a Section 10 No Jeopardy finding re: Cook Inlet Beluga Whales in November 2010.</p> <p>A FEIS was signed in December 2007 and a ROD was signed in December 2010.</p> <p>404 public comment period closed December 2011.</p> <p>ESA consultation to likely delay Army Corps 404 permit decision beyond Sept 30, 2013. Further delay due to government shutdown?</p> <p>May need LOA from NMFS.</p>	<p>Section 401 Waiver issued by ADEC.</p> <p>Submerged tidal lands Southcentral Region February 2013.</p> <p>Mental Health issued Best Interest small parcel notice to KABATA, signed .</p>

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Ambler Mining District Transportation Corridor

Lead Federal Agency: COE

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Marie Steele, (2) AIDEA Lead: Mark Davis, (3) DOT Lead: Ryan Andersen, (4) EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), (5) Gayle Martin (404), (6) Corps Lead:

<p>The Ambler Mining District Access project will evaluate potential transportation corridors serving the Ambler Mining District. The purpose is to provide all season access for exploration and development of potential resources within this district. The work will include the evaluation of transportation modes such as roads, rail, barge and airport networks. The transportation corridor will also address critical infrastructure needs for the development of natural resources such as power generation and communications. ADOT project manager is Ryan Andersen; ADOT Environmental contact is Bruce Campbell. An OPMP funding RSA is in place with AIDEA.</p> <p>Proposed funding for FY14: \$8.5M</p>	<p>Project has completed transition from DOT to AIDEA; project manager has been hired; field season underway collecting baseline environmental work; state agency project update meeting held with Fairbanks state permitting personnel in July; anticipated week of Sept 12 for ANCH based agencies; public outreach ongoing; proponent hired Joy Huntington as Public Outreach Coordinator; meetings currently scheduled in Doyon Villages (Updated 8/26/2013)</p>	<p>EPA has not been contacted regarding this project in several months.</p>	
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TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Description & Link	Schedule	Federal	State
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Project Title: Juneau Access Road

Lead Federal Agency: COE

Responsible Person: (1) State Lead: Kyle Moselle, (2) DEC Lead : NA, (3) DOT Lead: Reuben Yost, (4) EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), (5) Matt LaCroix (404), (6) Corps Lead:

On September 14, 2011 the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) announced that it will begin the process with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to complete a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Juneau Access Improvements project. The SEIS will fully evaluate a stand-alone alternative that improves service in Lynn Canal using existing AMHS assets. The supplemental EIS will also update the Final EIS reasonable alternatives and will address changes in applicable laws, regulations, and approvals. DOT&PF anticipates the SEIS process will take approximately two years, with a draft SEIS released in late 2012, a final SEIS released in mid 2013, and a new Record of Decision (ROD) approved later that year. DOT&PF has contracted with the firm HDR Alaska, Inc. to prepare the SEIS and many of the required supporting documents.	PDSEIS for Cooperating Agency review expected January 2014. DSEIS expected February 2014.	EPA is a Cooperating Agency along with USFS and ADOT.	
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